

*Tuesday, October 14, 2003*

## Iraqis assume responsibility for guarding a Baghdad nuclear facility

Story and photos by Cpl. Todd Pruden, 372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq – A significant event marking the return to normalcy for the Iraqi people occurred Oct. 7. Authority of a site was transferred back to the people of Iraq.

In a moving ceremony, coalition forces transferred authority of the former Al Thawath Nuclear Research facility to the Iraqi Ministerial Guard. The Ministerial Guard will oversee the security and integrity of the facility.

To kick off the ceremony, two separate formations, one comprised of the Iraqi Ministerial Guard and the other of soldiers from B Company, 1st Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division, marched from opposite ends of the ceremony area toward each other and came to a stop five feet before they would have met. The two formations showed the union upon which coalition forces and Iraqis are building.

As a special guest speaker, Dr. Rashad Omar, the Iraqi minister of science and technology, said the day was monumental.

"Today marks the first change-of-command ceremony between Iraqis and the coalition," he said. "This place (the nuclear facility) was a place of much concern and controversy. We will use it for new and better circumstances."

The prior regime utilized the Al Thawath Nuclear Research Facility as a weapons research and development site, mainly concentrating on nuclear energy. Omar said the site will be used for science and technology research.

Lt. Col T.C. Williams, commander, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, also spoke at the ceremony. He spoke of his fondness for the Iraqi people and said that their cooperation with the coalition made the event possible.

"I am proud of the spirit of cooperation between the coalition and the Ministerial Guard," he said.

The ceremony concluded with the playing of the Iraqi national anthem and a ceremonial exchange of an AK-47 assault rifle between a U.S. soldier and a member of the Ministerial Guard to symbolize the transfer of authority.



**Capt. David Zelkowitz, B Company commander, 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division, performs a ceremonial passing of an AK-47 rifle to a Ministerial Guard, symbolizing the transfer of authority, at the former Al Thawath Nuclear Research Facility in Baghdad, Iraq, Oct. 7.**

"The Americans did well to give back this facility to the Iraqi people," said Hady Bouhy, one of the 412 guards assigned to the 23,000-acre complex. "It shows great progress."

Capt. David Zelkowitz, B Company commander, 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division, said the change of authority is more than just another step toward normalcy for the Iraqi people.

"It offers more jobs and this will definitely be a centerpiece for this area," Zelkowitz said.

Bouhy and the rest of the guards were thrilled by the ceremony and the chance to be a part of history.

"Now we can celebrate something for ourselves," Bouhy said. "We did not have the opportunity to celebrate with the old regime."

## NEWS

### U.S. Draft Sets Iraq Election Timetable

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - A new U.S. draft resolution, obtained by The Associated Press on Monday, gives Iraq's Governing Council until Dec. 15 to develop a timetable for elections and a new constitution. The draft resolution was given to other members of the U.N. Security Council over the weekend and the United States will seek a vote on it this week, diplomats said.

### Egyptian Twins in Good Shape, Doctor Says

DALLAS (AP) - Two-year-old twin boys from Egypt who had been joined at the head spent their first night apart after 34-hour separation surgery and a doctor said Monday they were "in good shape." The surgery to separate little Ahmed and Mohamed Ibrahim began Saturday morning at Children's Medical Center Dallas and ended late Sunday afternoon. They remained in critical but stable condition early Monday.

### U.N. Nuclear Agency Chief to Visit Iran

VIENNA, Austria (AP) - The U.N. nuclear watchdog agency chief will visit Iran this week to help persuade Tehran to meet an Oct. 31 deadline to prove it is not producing atomic weapons, a diplomat said Monday. The Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency said only that Mohamed ElBaradei had received a formal invitation. But a Western diplomat close to the agency told The Associated Press that ElBaradei had accepted and would head to Tehran on Thursday.

### Poles Honor Pope's 25 Years of Leadership

KRAKOW, Poland (AP) - In concerts, masses and national television specials, Poles honored Pope John Paul II, their native son, as he marked his 25th year as leader of the world's Roman Catholics. Church leaders, former schoolmates and other well-wishers credited the former Karol Wojtyla with bringing hope to an oppressed Poland with his election to the papacy in Oct. 16, 1978. On Sunday, yellow papal banners festooned churches and central squares nationwide.

#### SAFETY TIP Drivers' Training

Newly arriving soldiers in the AOR must receive drivers training. Commanders are reminded to ensure drivers training program is in place and enforced. Drivers training programs will emphasize:

- IED awareness training
- Actions upon contact
- Defensive driving techniques and local driving hazards

## SPORTS

### School Dislikes Parent's Hair Coloring

EL DORADO, Ark. (AP) -- An El Dorado High School parent's choice of hair gel could get him barred from football games.

Benny Murry wore purple and white gel in his hair to last weekend's Wildcat game, only to be told that school officials prefer the colors on team jerseys - not fans' heads.

Murry was told his display of school spirit was "excessive and extreme" and any encore appearances would result in him being barred from games.

"It made me mad and upset. I think it's kind of ridiculous," Murry said. "They said it draws attention off the field and onto me. I was just trying to get into the team spirit and support my daughter's school."

Derrill Smith, athletic director for El Dorado Schools, issued the warning. "According to district policy, 'students or spectators who wear extreme or unusual clothing to the game or who paint their faces or bodies will not be allowed in the game,' and lists examples as 'togas, bandanas, cowboy hats, gang colors, wigs, costumes,'" he said.

The policy also reads, "Students or spectators who dress in an unusual manner or paint their faces or bodies distract from the game and the official spirit groups. In many cases, students or spectators in special dress and painted faces or bodies act more 'rowdy' than they would otherwise. The basic philosophy behind this prohibition is the show is on the court or field and not in the stands."

Murry noted that face paint is specifically prohibited, but the school allows cheerleaders to charge a fee to paint paw prints on fans' faces.

"How could hair be any different?" he asked.

#### *Chaplain's Thought for the Day:* **Dodging Obstacles**

A state trooper pulled over a woman and asked, "Ma'am, is there a reason why you're weaving all over the road?"

The woman replied, "Oh officer, thank goodness you're here! I almost had an accident! I looked up and there was a tree right in front of me. So, I swerved to the left and there was another tree in front of me. Then, I swerved to the right and there was another tree in front of me!"

The officer reached through the side window to the rear view mirror, and explained, "Ma'am... that's your air freshener."

Like that woman, we spend much of our lives "dodging obstacles" which are really not obstacles at all. We worry (and lose sleep) over things which never materialize. We hesitate to take action because we are fearful of what "might" happen. Our imagined fears keep us from driving down the straight and narrow ("What will they say? What will they do?")

Is there anything you've hesitated doing lately because of an obstacle in your way? Be certain the obstacle is real. It might just be your air freshener!



October 14, 2003

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2003

As of: Monday, October 13, 2003 8:10:15 PM

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0:00	AROUND THE HORN		TOP GUN	TODAY	DATELINE NBC	0:00
0:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				0:30
1:00	SPORTSCENTER				HEADLINE NEWS	1:00
1:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	1:30
2:00		ESPNEWS	RUGRATS : - ANGELICA ORDERS OUT/LET IT SNOW	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	2:00
2:30	THE SPORTS REPORTERS PRIMETIME	MONDAY NIGHT COUNTDOWN	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TV-7): - SAILOR MOUTH / ARTIST UNKNOWN		CBS EVENING NEWS	2:30
3:00	MLB - ALCS GM 5: NY YANKEES @ RED SOX		THE SIMPSON : - I'M WITH CUPID	DRAGON TALES : - OUT WITH GARBAGE	THE NEWSHOUR	3:00
3:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - AISLE SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE		3:30
4:00		MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - WEEK 6: FALCONS @ RAMS	J.A.G. : - CRITICAL CONDITION	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	HANNITY & COLMES	4:00
5:00			REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW : - NOTORIOUS TRIALS: THE INSIDE STORY	THE NEWS WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS	5:00
6:00	ESPNEWS			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	6:00
6:30	ESPNEWS		FIGHT IN THE FIELDS	JUDGE JUDY	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	6:30
7:00	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION			ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	7:00
7:25				GUIDING LIGHT		7:25
7:30	PWBA (BOWLING) - PBA BANQUET OPEN	HEADLINE NEWS				7:30
8:00		SESAME STREET			NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	8:00
8:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		8:13
8:30			BIOGRAPHY : - CARLOS SANTANA			8:30
9:00	SPORTSCENTER	DRAGON TALES : - OUT WITH GARBAGE		HAPPILY EVER AFTER : - RIP VAN WINKLE	PAULA ZAHN NOW	9:00
9:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	WHAT'S NEW SCOOBY DOO? : - SAFARI, SO GOODIE!		9:30
10:00	CART AUTO RACING - GRAN PREMIO TELMEX/GIGANTE	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW : - NOTORIOUS TRIALS: THE INSIDE STORY	RUGRATS : - ANGELICA ORDERS OUT/LET IT SNOW	LIZZIE MCGUIRE : - RATED ARGH	NIGHTLINE	10:00
10:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TV-7): - SAILOR MOUTH / ARTIST UNKNOWN	ALL THAT	ARMY NEWSWATCH	10:30
11:00		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	THE SIMPSON : - I'M WITH CUPID	JEOPARDY!	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	11:00
11:25		GUIDING LIGHT				11:25
11:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - AISLE SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS	HEADLINE NEWS		11:30
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			J.A.G. : - CRITICAL CONDITION	ESPNEWS	48 HOURS	12:00
12:13		GENERAL HOSPITAL				12:13
12:30	BASEBALL TONIGHT			HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES	MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - FALCONS @ RAMS	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:30		JUDGE JUDY				13:30
14:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT	TODAY			GOOD MORNING AMERICA	14:00
14:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION		FIGHT IN THE FIELDS			14:30
15:00	MLB - ALCS GM 5: NY YANKEES @ RED SOX					15:00
16:00		HAPPILY EVER AFTER : - RIP VAN WINKLE		ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	16:00
16:30		WHAT'S NEW SCOOBY DOO? : - SAFARI, SO GOODIE!	BIOGRAPHY : - CARLOS SANTANA	HEADLINE NEWS	CHANNEL ONE	16:30
16:45					WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	16:45
16:52				PACIFIC REPORT		16:52
17:00		LIZZIE MCGUIRE : - RATED ARGH		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO	THE EARLY SHOW	17:00
17:30		ALL THAT	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES			17:30
18:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	RUGRATS : - ANGELICA ORDERS OUT/LET IT SNOW	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN		18:00
18:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TV-7): - SAILOR MOUTH / ARTIST UNKNOWN			18:30
19:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSON : - I'M WITH CUPID	SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT	FOX NEWS LIVE	19:00
19:30	54321	HEADLINE NEWS	HOME IMPROVEMENT : - AISLE SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS			19:30
20:00	NFL - MNF - WEEK 6: ATLANTA FALCONS @ ST. LOUIS RAMS	SMALLVILLE : - TEMPEST (PT. 1)	J.A.G. : - CRITICAL CONDITION		FOX NEWS	20:00
21:00		MTV 2003 VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS	REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES	BORN YESTERDAY	FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
21:15						21:15
22:00					STUDIO B WITH SHEPARD SMITH	22:00
22:30			FIGHT IN THE FIELDS			22:30
23:00	ESPNEWS			HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:00
23:30	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS		ESPNEWS	ARMY NEWSWATCH	23:30